



The University of Hong Kong Libraries

focus

CARING, COLLABORATIVE, CREATIVE.
YOUR PARTNER IN INTELLECTUAL EXCELLENCE.

Message from the Librarian

On June 8 2006, jointly with our friends at the University Museum and Art Gallery, we inaugurated an exhibition entitled **Books and Their Stories: Gems from the University of Hong Kong Libraries Collection** and the **Launching of the HKU Libraries One Millionth E-Book**. This display will be open to the public until the 30th of July.

As the title suggests we are celebrating both the acquisition of the one millionth e-book and the collecting of valuable books that has gone on over the past 90+ years since the Libraries was established.

Once upon a book

Some might not think that wars and books have much in common, but in the display you could see two volumes whose chops or stamps indicate they were once housed in the libraries in the Yuanmingyuan, or Old Summer Palace, in

Beijing. They were no doubt removed when the Palace was looted and destroyed by western Allied troops in retaliation for the siege of the foreign legations by the Boxer rebels being used by the empress dowager Cixi (Tz'u Hsi) to drive the foreigners out of China. Another example of how books and war are intermingled are books whose property stamps show that while they started in Hankow at a library established for the use of foreigners in now modern day Wuhan, they were subsequently purchased by our University, but were later moved to a public library located in the Helena May Institute on Garden Road by the Japanese during their occupation of Hong Kong, and finally moved to Japan at some point near the end of World War II. Fortunately, after the war, they were returned to our library. Other examples of less dramatic but nonetheless interesting collecting are also included in the exhibits.



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Message from the Librarian

Digital Rare Book: “An authentic account of an embassy from the King of Great Britain to the Emperor of China” comes to life

The other key event celebrated at the Museum is the millionth e-book which was recently added to the Libraries. We chose to digitise a beautifully illustrated 1798 edition of the account of the failed attempt by the British to send an ambassador to China to establish trade between their two countries. The embassy included painters who sketched what they saw of the lives of the people with whom they came in contact. Later these drawings were finalised and painted in brilliant hues and included in this extremely limited edition, a copy of which is in our library.

We have built this million e-book collection in response to the enormous amount of enthusiasm for information that can be accessed using the internet; because of the emergence of what is known as “blended learning”, that is learning that employs the Web to supplement face to face teaching; and to add materials published prior to our library’s establishment or which were published in earlier lean years when our resources were unable to collect as much as we are now able to accomplish. Most of our e-books have been purchased and hosted on our own computer servers or are on remote servers with license agreements allowing our permanent access. Two-thirds of these collections are in English and one-third in Chinese. Three quarters of the e-books cover humanities topics with social science and the sciences taking up the rest.

We do not yet have good use statistics since this data in many cases can only be obtained from the producers of the e-books. However, since users have to be authenticated or prove their connection with the University before they access these collections, we do know that over the past 12 months, students and staff “opened the door” to these e-book collections nearly 250,000 times. Once inside the collection they might have browsed or read one book or multiple books. People, it seems clear, use e-books quite differently from printed books. In the former case they take advantage of the keyword searching capability to find a specific bit of information within an e-book. In the latter case, a printed book, fiction or non-fiction, is great for reading from front to back to get an overall understanding of its contents. We expect to continue to collect both formats in the future.

Please feel welcome to visit our Libraries to learn more about our collections and services.



Dr Anthony W. Ferguson
University Librarian



Exhibitions

▶ **Planning the Centennial Campus:
an Open Process for a Visionary Project**
April 20 - May 2 2006



Satellite maps of Pan Pearl Delta (Hainan, Guizhou, Jiangxi, Yunnan, Sichuan, Hunan, Fujian, Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region, Guangdong, Hong Kong and Macau)



West Campus Models

▶ **Pan PRD landsat Thematic Mapper TM**
May 3 - June 8 2006

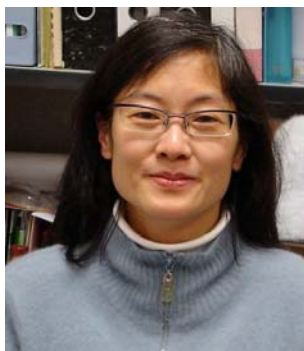


▶ **Humanity through the eyes of Lee King-hin**
June 9 - July 2 2006

Photographs of people around the world.

Accolades

▶ Staff Recognition Award



This quarterly award is given periodically to recognise a staff member whose presence contributes in an extraordinary way to the Libraries. Award winner will receive HK\$500 and a book plate to honor his dedication.

Lillian Lucke of Medical Library has been selected as the award recipient of the Staff Recognition Program for the second quarter of 2006.

Past Staff Recognition Award Recipients

Leong Chau Iu (Access Services Department)

Jimmy Sung (Systems Department)

▶ Congratulations to all of those who have received well-deserving promotions:

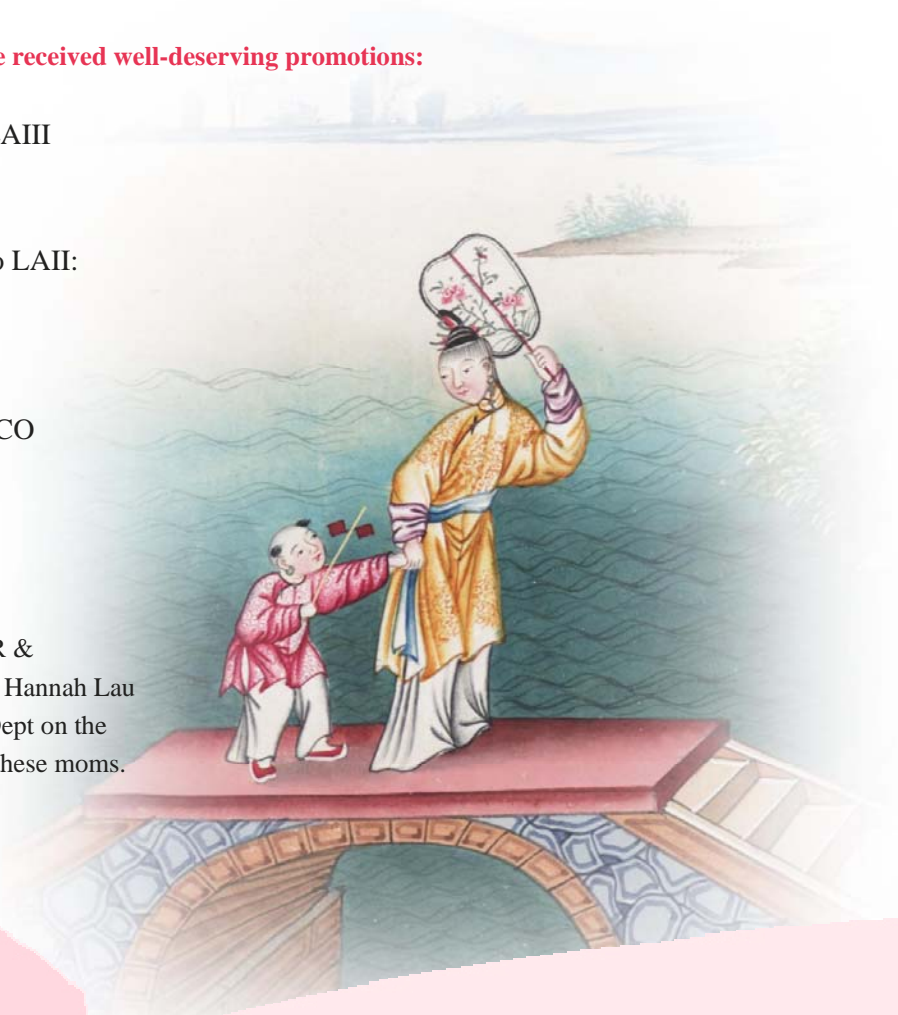
The following JLA was promoted to LAIII
James Chiu

The following LAIII were promoted to LAII:
Ivan Lo
Fung Hon Chi

The following ACO was promoted to CO
Jimmy Sung

▶ Mirabile dictu

Congratulations to Carmen Tsang from PR & Development on the birth of her daughter, Hannah Lau and also to Nancy Chan from Reference Dept on the birth of her baby boy. The best of luck to these moms.



Spotlight on Treasures

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《中東戰紀本末》8卷

[索書號：山627.8 /442 v.1-8]

圖一。

書影。扉頁書名由著名金石鑑賞家，曾藏有商鞅方升的龔心銘題署，上有『廣/學會』黔印，中為「黃海戰場圖」。

乍看書名很容易令人產生錯覺，以為內容是概談今日中東戰事，其實全書是近代中國和日本的甲午戰爭資料集，為百一十年前來華美南監理會傳教士林樂知 (Young John Allen, 1836-1907) 著譯；蔡爾康纂輯，上海圖書集成局鑄版，於清光緒柔兆涸灘如月[即丙申年二月。“柔兆”為天干“丙”之代稱，“涸灘”為地支“申”之代稱，“如月”即“二月”別名。]即西曆 1896 年 4 月由上海廣學會出版。是書初編 8 卷，大部份原為《萬國公報》內林蔡二人合輯隸屬“戰前和後之見聞”內之文章彙集。1897 年 2 月增出續編 4 卷，1900 年又添三編 4 卷，全輯共 16 卷。本館存初編本曾是蔡爾康私藏，首冊第 8 頁蔡序末署名旁留有「蔡印/爾康」(陰刻, 0.9 x 0.9 公分)及「縷/馨」(陽篆, 0.8 x 0.8 公分)二黔印，十分難得，可惜審閱時發現缺了卷末之“跋”和“廣學會書目”，未悉這可是被蠹蟲喫走還是原來蔡氏的未定稿本？

館存初編內容簡介：卷前有林樂知、王韜(清末狀元)、沈毓桂、蔡爾康序文、凡例和目錄；卷一弭兵會記等，追溯明代以來中日關係、敘述甲午戰爭的緣由；卷二為硃諭、廷寄、諭旨、奏疏；卷三為日本資料；卷

四、五為陸戰、海戰及議和等相關文件；卷六至八為林、蔡及時人等對戰爭和時事問題的討論。此書通體為文言文，有標點輔讀，因所言切中及不乏振興中國之策，故吸引時人學士爭相購讀，風行一時，初版三千本一掃而空並予以再版。

附識：

一. 廣學會 Christian Literature for China / Christian Literature Society

初名 “The Society for the Diffusion of Christian and General Knowledge among the Chinese”，直譯為“在中國人當中廣傳基督教及一般知識的會社”，曾呼作“同文書會”，後改名廣學會。1887年11月1日在上海成立，創辦人為英國傳教士韋廉臣 (Alexander Williamson, 1829-1890)，成員多為著名傳教士，如李提摩太，林樂知，李佳白等，為基督教在中國設立的最大的出版機構，創辦以來共出版二千多種圖書，其編刊的《教會新報》、《萬國公報》等，對晚清時期的中外文化交流，萌發起過重要作用。香港現存的“基督教文藝出版社”即是其繼承者，但影響力和活動已不可比對了！

二. 林樂知 Young John Allen, 1836-1907

近代來華著名的傳教士。原籍美國喬治亞州，雙親早故，由姨父母撫養成人。1858年大學畢業後立志成為宣教士，被監理會按立為牧師並差往中國 [初林欲往非洲。] 次年坐船二百一十日繞大西洋到上海。他致力學習華語，初名“林約翰”，後改為“林樂知”，並取了別號“榮章”，其他名號有“林華書院主人”、“林華主人”、“萬國公報館主人”、“爽目子”、“美國進士”等，曾入同文館任西學教習，參予江南製造局的譯書工作，同治年間創辦《教會新報》(萬國公報前身)及創立中西書院，又積極參予廣學會許多宣教和傳揚西學的編譯活動，著作與言論對時人引入近代文明思維影響鉅大，他一生大部份時間在華工作，當完成1907年1月號的《萬國公報》的編輯工作後逝世，享年71歲，卜葬於上海，現今上海崑山路尚有「景林堂」，正是紀念這位一生用人格魅力感召華人的中國通/宣教士。



圖二. 林樂知繪像.



圖三. 書內蔡爾康的印章.

三. 蔡爾康 (1852-192?)

為晚清著名的翻譯家。字縷馨仙史，號鑄鐵生、鑄鐵庵主，上海人，出生於嘉定南翔。自幼邃於經古詞章，有深厚的國學根基，後因鄉試屢敗，投身報界，二十歲後，出佐《申報》三年，繼主《滬報》八年，創立《新聞報》。1892年被薦入廣學會為總幹事李提摩太 (Timothy Richard, 1845-1919) 之記室並組織林樂知，由是開始全力襄助西人傳播西學。1894年繼沈毓桂出任《萬國公報》華文筆政，歷時七年，共編公報95冊。其間，由他筆錄潤飾，李提摩太、林樂知等人口述；合作譯撰了大量有關中西政治、經濟、社會、歷史、地理等方面的文章，竭力宣傳保王朝、抵外侮、親英美、務維新的思想，對九十年代中國的維新運動產生過重大影響。另蔡氏更是中國新聞史上的功臣，他使《民報》成為白話報之祖；他在《申報》創了報名橫書的先河，其中《寰瀛畫報》成為畫報先聲；他於《字林滬報》編附《花團錦簇樓詩輯》，成為文藝副刊的奠基人，而其中連載的小說《野叟曝言》更是連載小說的首創者，由是可見蔡氏的卓識和遠見，端的是報界先知。

參考資料：

馬軍. “首個將 Karl Marx 譯為“馬克思”的人 – 蔡爾康史志譯撰述略” 《史學理論研究》2002年第2期. 頁 131-135

梁元生. 《林樂知在華事業與萬國公報》 香港：中文大學出版社，1978. 頁 8-14

“Zhong Dong zhan ji ben mo : 8 juan”

Zhong Dong zhan ji ben mo : 8 juan, xu bian 4 juan, San bian 4 juan ; Wen Xue xing guo rong : 2 ruan / Shanghai Guang xue hui yi zhu ; Linle zhi zhu yi ; Cai Ergang zuan ji.

This was the earliest topical compilation of news writings in China published by the Christian Literature Society in 1896. It is not only an outstanding cooperative work by a well known missionary from United States, Young John Allen (1836-1907) and an influential translator in the late 19th century Cai Erkang, but also a valuable resource for many Chinese intellectuals during the Qing dynasty.

Featured Collection

Archive of Americana

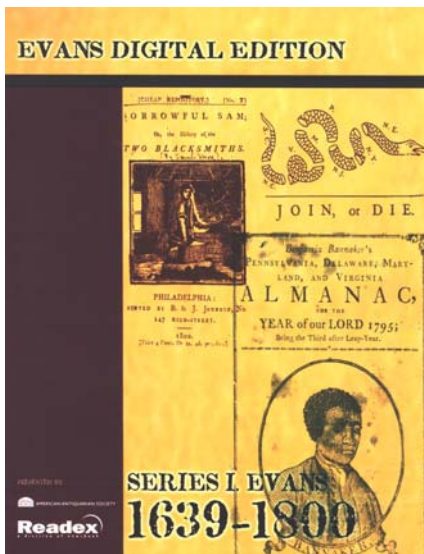
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Readex presents a unique web-based family of comprehensive historical collections that allows students and scholars to explore the United States in unprecedented depth and detail. These authoritative collections provide online access to the printed record of the American nation from the seventeenth century onwards, placing nearly every aspect of American history, literature, and culture at researchers' fingertips.

Archive of Americana collections feature fully searchable facsimile text images, cross-collection searching, and highlighted search terms. The Libraries has subscribed to the following databases from the Archive of Americana:



Books, pamphlets, broadsides and other imprints

Early American Imprints, Series I: Evans, 1639-1800

Search or browse approximately 36,000 books, pamphlets, and broadsides listed in the renowned bibliography by Charles Evans, including hundreds of publications unavailable earlier.

To access, please go to:

<http://eproxy.lib.hku.hk/login?url=http://infoweb.newsbank.com/?db=EVAN&s%5Fstart=evans>

Early American Imprints, Series II: Shaw-Shoemaker, 1801-1819

Search or browse approximately 36,000 books, pamphlets, and broadsides listed in the distinguished bibliography by Ralph R. Shaw and Richard H. Shoemaker, including thousands of publications unavailable earlier.

To access, please go to: <http://eproxy.lib.hku.hk/login?url=http://infoweb.newsbank.com/?db=SHAW>

American Broadsides and Ephemera

Search or browse approximately 15,000 broadsides printed between 1820 and 1876 and 15,000 pieces of ephemera printed between 1760 and 1876.

To access, please go to:

http://eproxy.lib.hku.hk/login?url=http://infoweb.newsbank.com/?db=ABEA&s_startsearch=keyword



Newspapers

Early American Newspapers Digital 1690-1875

Search or browse more than a million pages of hundreds of historic newspapers listed in the authoritative bibliographies of Clarence Brigham and others.

To access, please go to:

<http://eproxy.lib.hku.hk/login?url=http://infoweb.newsbank.com/?db=EANA>



Government publications

U.S Congressional Serial Set, 1817-1980

Search or browse the reports, documents, and journals of the United States Senate and House of Representatives, originally published in approximately 13,800 bound volumes.

To access, please go to:

<http://eproxy.lib.hku.hk/login?url=http://infoweb.newsbank.com/?db=SERIAL&s>

American State Papers, 1789-1838

Search or browse an essential retrospective collection of government publications from 1789 through 1838, published in the second quarter of the 19th century.

To access, please go to:

<http://eproxy.lib.hku.hk/login?url=http://infoweb.newsbank.com/?db=ASPA>

Apart from searching a single collection, users can also do full-text searches across multiple collections:

http://infoweb.newsbank.com/iw-search/we/MultiSearch?p_product=AOFA&p_action=keyword&p_theme=americana&p_nbid=N65M4FOIMTE1MTQ4NjM4My4xOTMzODk6MT0xMjoxNDcuOC4yMi4xNjU&p_clear_search=&s_search_type=keyword&s_category=none&d_refprod=AOFA

Notable Acquisitions

Numerical data and functional relationships in science and technology. New series, Group IV, physical chemistry, Vol. 10 : heats of mixing and solution - Subvolume B / editor in chief, W. Martienssen

Berlin : Springer-Verlag, 2005

Call no SM 541 N9

This subvolume contains selected data on heats of mixing and solution of binary gaseous, liquid, near-critical, and supercritical fluid systems of nonelectrolytes, including aqueous-organic systems, in broad ranges of temperature, pressure, and composition. All the data are extracted from the original literature published from 1957 to 2005.

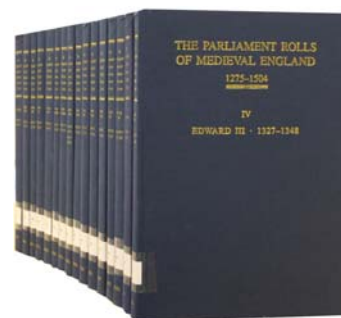


The Parliament rolls of medieval England 1275-1504 / general editor Chris Given-Wilson. [16-VOL. SET + CD-ROM]

Woodbridge : Boydell Press ; London : National Archives, 2005.

Call no LB 942.02 P25

The rolls of parliament were the official records of the meetings of the English parliament from the reign of Edward I (1272-1307) until the reign of Henry VII (1485-1509), after which they were superseded by the journals of the lords, and, somewhat later, the commons. This edition reproduces the rolls in their entirety, together with a few individual items published since 1783, as well as a substantial amount of material never previously published; it is complemented by a full translation of all the texts from the three languages used by the medieval clerks (Latin, Anglo-Norman and Middle English).



Collection Analysis

One millionth e-book at HKU Libraries

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This summer, the HKU Libraries celebrated the addition of the millionth e-book to its collections (http://lib.hku.hk/1m_ebook_celebration). An exhibition was held at the University Museum and Art Gallery to showcase gems from the collection and a one and a half day seminar will be held in September which will be attended by overseas and local academics and professionals.

One million e-books is certainly a milestone in the information world. Similar efforts are being made elsewhere, such as the Million Book Project (http://www.library.cmu.edu/Libraries/MBP_FAQ.html) and Project Gutenberg and the World eBook Library (<http://www.worldbookfair.com/>), notwithstanding, HKU Libraries is the first to reach the one million mark.

Why and How we got there

In the June 2003 issue of *Focus*, our Collection Development Librarian discussed the various advantages of e-books, including 24x7 access and full-text searchability. While e-books have obvious pluses, we have been cautious in the directions we have taken, and usage and user feedback have been our guideposts during the development of HKU Libraries' e-book collection.

HKU Libraries' 2005 User Survey showed that the percentage of respondents that preferred print books went down from 71.8% to 67.2%. This corresponds with the increase in e-book usage over the past few years, during which time the total number of accesses via EZProxy for the top few e-book collections doubled, with over 20,000 accesses per month on average in 2005/06. Detailed usage studies of our netLibrary e-book collection (see the Collection Analysis article in the June 2006 *Focus*), now at 50,000 titles, confirmed that the adoption of the e-book format at HKU was proceeding quickly as compared with our counterparts in the US and that this trend existed in many disciplines, including life sciences and social sciences.

EZProxy Statistics

Database	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06
netLibrary	62609	55768	95214
Ebrary	20581	38939	57468
Digital Dissertation Consortium	6695	31957	52920
Books24x7	29313	24853	20509
Superstar	--	--	14341
Knovel	3926	3745	4112
Apabi	--	--	3380
	123124	155262	247944

In addition to satisfying user needs, the importance of e-books has been validated by the space and money savings they have brought about. E-book consortia have played a key role in the development of a critical mass of e-books in the HKU Libraries at a very reasonable cost.

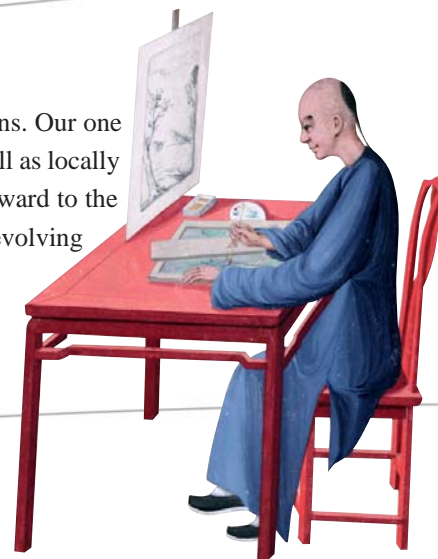
Examples of e-book consortia

Title	Savings (USD)	Average cost per title (USD)
netLibrary CCDMHK (Columbia, Cornell, Dartmouth, Middlebury)	581750	11
netLibrary Taiwan-HK ebook Consortium (48 members)	3.3 M	1.2
Taiwan Digital Dissertation Consortium (90 members as of Jan 2006)	2.9 M	1.5

The average book price for 2003 (The Bowker Annual 2005) for North American academic books was USD56.62 and for US paperbacks was USD32.85. The standard price for ProQuest UMI dissertations has been USD55 per title. Despite rising book prices (1.3% in 2003), HKU Libraries was able to save over USD3.8M during the last few years by taking advantage of mega-bulk purchase and participating in international consortia of netLibrary and ProQuest UMI e-dissertations alone. It would be difficult to achieve this amount of savings through print-book consortia due to the inflexibility in print production costs and pricing, and geographic/physical limitations.

While it seems natural to think of IT-related and science titles when discussing e-books and their potential, many of the early initiatives in e-books and e-text were in the areas of history and literature. In fact, the desire of arts and humanities scholars to take advantage of the full-text searching capability of e-books – which allows scholars to look up words and topics among millions of pages of documents – can be seen in product reviews and accolades. Our own faculty once commented that “The Evans Collection is absolutely necessary, and the digital version makes it so much more accessible to everyone”. HKU Libraries has developed an e-book collection strong both in IT and the sciences (Safari Tech Books Online, Books24x7 IT Pro, Knovel Library, ENGnetBASE) as well as the arts and humanities (Readex Archive Americana, Early English Books Online, Eighteenth Century Collections Online, to name a few examples).

The analysis mainly highlights our commercial Western language e-book collections. Our one million e-books in fact also comprise a substantial collection of Chinese titles as well as locally digitised items. While we celebrate the achievement of this milestone, we look forward to the continuous development of our e-book and e-resources collection in serving the evolving needs of the HKU community.



New & Noteworthy

The Centre for Comparative and Public Law and the University of Hong Kong Libraries are pleased to announce the launch of Basic Law Drafting History Online (BLDHO)

The Basic Law of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region is the most important law in Hong Kong. It has profound implications in all of our lives and touches upon almost every facet of society. In its 160 articles and three annexes, one finds the foundation for Hong Kong's current political, social, economic, cultural, and legal systems. It also confers fundamental rights and freedoms, many of which did not exist prior to 1997. As Hong Kong's constitution, the Basic Law is the supreme law, and other laws inconsistent with it can be invalidated by the courts.

As we near the first decade of the HKSAR, there is now considerable interest in the interpretation and application of the Basic Law. It is increasingly invoked in litigation and has found application in a wide range of cases including criminal, civil, property, and administrative law cases. While the courts have demonstrated a generous and purposive approach to interpretation of the Basic Law, mainland interpretations have shown a greater affinity for the original meaning of the words. Different views on interpretation highlight the inherent tension within the Basic Law, which exists as both a Chinese law and a constitution in Hong Kong's common law system of justice.

The Centre for Comparative and Public Law and the University of Hong Kong Libraries have developed a new online resource

to allow members of the public to gain a deeper understanding of the drafting history of the Basic Law. **Basic Law Drafting History Online (BLDHO)** provides free public access to a collection of almost 900 documents prepared or used by the various official bodies from 1985 to 1990, when the Basic Law was drafted and promulgated, and from 1990 to 1997, when preparations were made for the resumption of sovereignty. This collection of primary materials is scanned from documents publicly available in Hong Kong. BLDHO can be accessed from the HKU Libraries' Digital Initiatives webpage (<http://sunzi1.lib.hku.hk/bldho/>) or from the Centre for Comparative and Public Law webpage (<http://www.hku.hk/ccpl>).

Future releases of BLDHO (expected in 2007) will allow users to access information from relevant newspaper articles and from the Hong Kong Legislative Council debates in the period 1984-90. We also aim to provide a database that analyzes the history of each of the articles in the Basic Law.

BLDHO is a research output of the Constitutional Law Project funded by the University of Hong Kong's URC Strategic Research Areas and Themes initiative. Previous outputs include the *Hong Kong Basic Law Bibliography* and *Hong Kong Human Rights Bibliography*, both published by Hong Kong Law Journal Limited (<http://www.hklj.com>).

We welcome your comments on BLDHO. Please send them to Simon NM Young at snmyoung@hku.hk.

New & Noteworthy

Library Courses

Reference Department will organise a series of orientation sessions in early September to introduce new students and other library users to the Main Library's services and facilities. Several whole day postgraduate workshops will also be conducted from mid-August to October, to enhance their library research skills.

If you wish to request instructional courses in a specific subject area, please contact Reference Librarian, Rebecca Yeung at 28597010 or rebecca@hkucc.hku.hk.



“It is a pleasant thing to reflect upon, and furnishes a complete answer to those who contend for the gradual degeneration of the human species, that every baby born into the world is a finer one than the last.” - Charles Dickens



The University of Hong Kong Libraries

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YOUR PARTNER IN INTELLECTUAL EXCELLENCE.

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